

A New Species of Two-winged Fly belonging to the Genus *Acronarista* (Diptera: Tachinidae)

By H. J. REINHARD, College Station, Texas.

In 1908, Townsend established the genus *Acronarista* with *mirabilis* as the type and sole species.¹ The description was based upon a single specimen collected by the late Dr. H. G. Dyar at Palm Beach, Florida.

I am indebted to Dr. J. M. Aldrich for the opportunity of examining the type specimen now in the U. S. National Museum. The type is a male and not a female as stated in the original description. This correction has already been indicated by W. R. Thompson.² The species is rare among our native Tachinidae and for more than twenty years no additional specimens have been discovered.

A second species from Louisiana, described as new in the present paper, seems congeneric. It differs in having the arista situated about midway between the base and apex of the anterior ramus of the third antennal joint; in having one to three setules near the tip of the first vein; and a number of other less essential details.

Acronarista cornuta new species

Male: Front at narrowest (vertex) 0.384 of the head width in the one specimen, widening but slightly to base of antennae; parafrontals faintly pruinose subshining in certain angles, with only a few short inconspicuous hairs outside the frontal rows; median stripe brownish-black, uniform in width to triangle and slightly broader than one parafrontal; frontal bristles descending to apex of second antennal joint, the uppermost one or two pairs smaller than the preceding ones; ocellars proclinate; verticals one pair (inner) rather stout, curving backward; orbitals present (three on one side and two on other), all proclinate; face gray pollinose, very deeply excavated, the sides linear, bare, and strongly divergent downward; vibrissae large, inserted on oral margin, with only a few bristles on the ridges above; antennae reaching oral margin, basal joints short, tinged with yellow; third wholly black, deeply and broadly incised to form an anterior and posterior ramus which in profile are distinctly bowed effecting a U-shaped appearance; arista situated slightly

¹ Tax. Musc. Flies, Smith Misc. Colls., Vol. LI, p. 85.

² Canad. Ent., Vol. XLIII, p. 313.

nearer base than apex of anterior ramus, thickened almost to tip, penultimate joint only slightly shorter than the third; cheeks about one-sixth the eye height; proboscis short, fleshy; palpi yellow; eyes bare.

Thorax and scutellum black, dusted lightly with bluish-gray pollen, humeri more densely pollinose; mesonotum showing five indistinct dark stripes in front and none behind suture. Chaetotaxy: humeral 2; posthumeral 2; presutural 1; acrostichal 3, 1; dorsocentral 3, 3; notopleural 2; intraalar 3 (anterior one minute); supraalar 3; postalar 2; pteropleural 1; sternopleural 4 (intermediate ones small); scutellum with two lateral besides a weaker apical pair, no discals; postscutellum normally developed; calypters semitransparent, white.

Abdomen rather short and flat, basal margins of segments two to four with narrow bands of bluish-gray pollen, the remainder of these segments, including the first, shining black; first segment without median marginal bristles; second with one pair, rather small; third with a marginal row situated considerably before the hind margin; fourth with a discal row but without a distinct row of marginals.

Legs blackish, rather stout, pulvilli conspicuous but shorter than last tarsal joint; mid tibia with one bristle on outer front side; hind tibia with a sparse row of short bristles on outer posterior edge with one or two longer near middle.

Wings hyaline; the hind cross vein erect joining the fourth vein slightly before the middle between small cross vein and bend; first vein with one to three setules near the apex; third with one rather large bristle at base; fourth vein with a broadly rounded bend, curving outward near the tip leaving the first posterior cell narrowly open almost in exact wing tip; costal spine minute.

Length, 4 mm.

Female: Unknown.

Described from a single male specimen from Opelousas, LOUISIANA, March, 1897, (collector unknown) received from David G. Hall.

Type: Male, Cat. No. 43172 U.S.N.M.

This species, like the genotype, is a minute fly with the third antennal joint cleft into two rami. In profile these are less strongly bowed than in *mirabilis* and the entire joint is black. The presence of a few setules on the first vein; the elongated penultimate joint of the arista; and the insertion of the latter nearer the base of the third antennal joint do not appear to be characters of generic importance in this case.